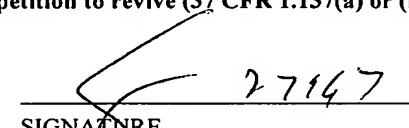


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| <b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES<br/>DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)<br/>CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>   |   | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER<br>PET-2179<br><br>U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)<br><div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">10/529378</div> |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.<br>PCT/FR2003/002819  | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE<br>25 September 2003 (25.09.2003) | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED<br>27 September 2002 (27.09.2002)  |
| TITLE OF INVENTION<br>OXIDIZING HEAT TREATMENT PASSIVATION OF SULPHIDE HYDROTREATMENT CATALYST  |   |  |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US<br>Pierre DUFRESNE, et al.  |   |  |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:   |   |  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</li> <li>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</li> <li>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</li> </ol> </li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> <li>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</li> <li>d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</li> <li>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</li> <li>10. <input type="checkbox"/> English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</li> </ol> <p><b>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98.</li> <li>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</li> <li>13. <input type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</li> <li>14. <input type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 C.F.R. 1.76.</li> <li>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</li> <li>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</li> <li>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825.</li> <li>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</li> <li>20. <input type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:.</li> </ol> |   |  |

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| U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)  |  | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.  |   | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER            |  |
| <b>10/529378</b>   |  | PCT/FR2003/002819  |   | PET-2179                            |  |
| The following fees have been submitted   |  |  |   | <b>CALCULATIONS    PTO USE ONLY</b> |  |
| 21.  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee | <b>\$300</b>   | <b>\$300.00</b>   |                                     |  |
| 22.  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee    |  | <b>\$200.00</b>   |                                     |  |
| If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)   |  | <b>\$100</b>   |   |                                     |  |
| All other situations   |  | <b>\$200</b>   |   |                                     |  |
| 23.  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee         |  | <b>\$500.00</b>   |                                     |  |
| Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an  |  |  |   |                                     |  |
| International Searching Authority  |  | <b>\$100</b>   |   |                                     |  |
| International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office  |  | <b>\$400</b>   |   |                                     |  |
| All other situations   |  | <b>\$500</b>   |   |                                     |  |
| <b>Total of 21, 22 and 23 =</b>  |  |  | <b>\$1000.00</b>  |                                     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof. |  |  |   |                                     |  |
| Total Sheets   | Extra Sheets   | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof<br>(round up to a whole number)   | RATE  |                                     |  |
| - 100  | /50 =  |  | x \$250   | \$                                  |  |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(h)).   |  |  | \$  |                                     |  |
| CLAIMS   | NUMBER FILED   | NUMBER EXTRA   | RATE  |                                     |  |
| Total Claims   | 12- 20 =   |  | x \$50  | \$                                  |  |
| Independent Claims   | 1- 3 =   |  | x \$200   | \$                                  |  |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)  |  |  | + \$360   | \$                                  |  |
| <b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =</b>   |  |  | <b>\$1000.00</b>  |                                     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.   |  |  |   |                                     |  |
| <b>SUBTOTAL =</b>  |  |  | <b>\$</b>   |                                     |  |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)).  |  |  | \$  |                                     |  |
| <b>TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =</b>  |  |  | <b>\$1000.00</b>  |                                     |  |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property   |  |  | \$  |                                     |  |
| <b>TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =</b>   |  |  | <b>\$1000.00</b>  |                                     |  |
|  |  |  | <b>Amount to be refunded:</b>   | \$                                  |  |
|  |  |  | <b>Amount to be charged:</b>  | \$                                  |  |
| a.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                    | A check in the amount of <u>\$1000.00</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed.   |   |                                     |  |
| b.   | <input type="checkbox"/>                               | Please charge my Deposit Account No. 13-3402 in the amount of \$_____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.   |   |                                     |  |
| c.   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                    | The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.                                       |   |                                     |  |
| d.   | <input type="checkbox"/>                               | Fees are to be charged to a credit card. <b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. <b>Credit card information should not be included on this form</b> Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. |   |                                     |  |
| <b>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.</b>  |  |  |   |                                     |  |
| SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  |  |  |   |                                     |  |
|  |  |  | <br>SIGNATURE<br><u>I. William Millen</u><br>NAME<br><u>19,544</u><br>REGISTRATION NUMBER |                                     |  |

March 28, 2005